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Jupiter. The reference to a nominal stem *div* as if it were a verbal stem (p. xxxvi) seems to be an inadvertence, as no such verbal stem exists in Sanskrit.

In the Commentary the editor's erudition has been kept within proper bounds. The notes are judicious, scholarly, yet concise and free from the vexatious devices that save time and space for the editor, but squander energy or foster ignorance for the pupil. The present-day editor's troubles are multiplied by the multiplication of school grammars, but Dr. Laing has in the majority of references courageously arrayed his six authorities in a row, and the student may take his choice. With such an onus upon the editor it is hardly to be wondered at that *humi* is first merely "*on the ground, locative*," on *Met.*, I, 376; while twenty pages later, on *Met.*, III, 105, six grammars are brought in to support the same statement. In many instances the alternative of stating a principle briefly without grammar reference is followed, and only rarely have we such a note as *Met.*, III, 71, "*tergo, dative*"—a form of note that unfortunately leads the student to think that to name a case is to explain a construction. The sane principle of giving a graceful translation even when a "literal" translation has also seemed necessary is happily followed throughout. These graceful translations constitute one of the chief merits of the Commentary—if one may except "*rain-water*" (*Fast.*, II, 219), an expression more apt to suggest a certain day of the week to many of the high-school pupils, rather than Ovid's poetical substitute for *aqua pluvialis*.

The proofreading has been well done. I have noted only a few slips: *causa ruboriseram* (*Trist.*, III, 7, 26); a bit of uncertainty in the metrical references—for example, on *Met.*, II, 226, or X, 55, where the references are neither topical, as is the regular practice, nor to the exact page; again, on *Met.*, I, 292, "*scan deerant*" should read *dēerant*; "*clauses of purpose which contains a comparative*" (*Met.*, II, 44) is another inadvertence; Demēter (*Introd.*, p. xxxi), Tithōnus (*id.*, p. xxxiv), and Aurōra (*id.*) are evidently unmarked by oversight. It might have been stated earlier that the pages of the text are not marred by indicating quantities—a practice of at least doubtful pedagogical value; and in the notes very naturally only occasional forms are so distinguished.

Apropos of quantities, not every student will know of the confusion of tongues since the error of Marx in his interpretation of Priscian's rule in the matter of hidden quantities, and no grammar at the student's command will quite agree with the quantities as marked in the Vocabulary. On this point a brief introductory note would have been of service, as it would have prevented confusion for the student just fresh from some other vocabulary with the hidden quantities less accurately marked.

The criticisms here given are largely upon minor points, which do not really affect the working value of an excellent edition. It may be added that the general attractiveness of the volume is increased by seven half-tones of paintings by Correggio, Burne-Jones, and others, with one of Benvenuto Cellini's "Perseus."

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*The Essentials of Latin.* By HENRY CARR PEARSON. New York: American Book Co. Pp. 316. \$0.90.

Like most other books of this class which have appeared in the past few years, Mr. Pearson's book is intended to prepare directly for the reading of Cæsar. The vocabulary and the exercises are throughout based directly upon Cæsar, and the lessons include ten chapters of the first book of the *Gallie War* presented in simplified form. The selections

for reading given at the end of the book also include a simplified text of the first twenty chapters of the second book.

The general arrangement of the material is good, and the statement of grammatical principles is concise. The vocabularies with the separate lessons are made with an appreciation of what a pupil can be expected to do in the time usually allotted for the preparation of a lesson—a point too often overlooked in books for beginners. The exercises, especially in the first part of the book, are less satisfactory than the presentation of forms and syntax which they accompany. It would have been worth while for the author to spend more time in the choice of sentences for translation. A commendable feature is the grouping together at the end of the book of a number of topics in supplementary lessons which may be omitted by teachers who prefer to do so without involving the class in difficulties in subsequent lessons.

Occasional errors are to be noticed in the marking of quantities, but the proofreading in general is well done. The index in a book of this class is not a very important feature, but if one is to be given at all, it should be more complete.

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*Mather's Caesar: Episodes from the Gallic and Civil Wars.* Edited by MAURICE W. MATHER, PH.D., formerly Instructor in Latin in Harvard University. New York: American Book Co. Pp. 549. \$1.25.

This volume deserves commendation to the favor of progressive teachers everywhere, inasmuch as it presents, in unusually attractive form, some of the most interesting portions of Cæsar's *Commentaries* not usually read in our schools; selections from the *Gallic War* equivalent to the first four books, and about two-thirds that amount from the *Civil War*. While, of course, no academic class could cover so great an amount, a series of such selections is likely to do much to stimulate a departure from the traditional first four books. The summaries preceding the notes upon all the books, together with the interesting and carefully written introduction, seem quite adequate to preserve the unity of the work, which in such an episodic treatment might otherwise be sacrificed.

Text, notes, vocabulary, and illustrations are all very satisfactory, though it is to be regretted that a book so complete in details should be issued without references to The Hale and Buck *Grammar*. This deficiency will unquestionably militate against an otherwise excellent book in schools already availing themselves of this grammar.

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